

## Message Text

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R 051125Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2680

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

UNCLAS KUWAIT 1482

FOR NEA/APR LUMSDEN FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CDES, KU

SUBJ: DEATH OF LEWIS R. SCUDDER

1. I REGRET TO INFORM YOU AND THE AMBASSADORS AT INFO ADDRESSEES OF THE DEATH IN KUWAIT, ON APRIL 3, OF DR. LEWIS SCUDDER. YOU WILL WANT TO ADVISE AT LEAST THE FOLLOWING FRIENDS CURRENTLY ON ASSIGNMENT IN THE DEPARTMENT: HOWARD COTTAM, HARRISON SYMMES, JOHN GATCH, WALTER MCCLELLAND, ENOCH DUNCAN, PAT CUNNINGHAM, RICHARD MITCHELL AND LUCIEN KINSOLVING. BECAUSE OF DR. SCUDDER'S LONG-TIME ASSOCIATION WITH THIS EMBASSY AND GENERATIONS OF FOREIGN SERVICE PERSONNEL, THE FOLLOWING OBITUARY HAS BEEN PREPARED FOR POSSIBLE INCLUSION IN THE DEPARTMENT'S NEWSLETTER:

2. LEWIS R. SCUDDER, LONG-TIME CHIEF OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF THE DUTCH REFORM MISSION IN KUWAIT, AND IN RECENT YEARS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE KUWAIT MILITARY HOSPITAL, DIED THURSDAY, APRIL 3, OF AN HEART ATTACK SUFFERED WHILE PLAYING TENNIS. HE WAS 69.

3. THE SON OF MISSIONARIES, LEWIS WAS BORN IN VELLORE, SOUTH INDIA ON NOVEMBER 4, 1905. HE DID HIS MEDICAL TRAINING AT RUSH MEDICAL COLLEGE, IN CHICAGO, ILLINOIS. FOLLOWING A BRIEF UNCLASSIFIED

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VISIT TO KUWAIT IN 1938, HE AND HIS WIFE, DOROTHY, SPENT NEARLY

A YEAR AT THE DUTCH REFORM MEDICAL FACILITY IN AMARAH, IRAQ.  
AFTER INTENSIVE ARABIC STUDY IN INDIA, THE SCUDDERS SETTLED IN  
KUWAIT IN SEPT. 1, 1939, WHERE THEY WORKED AND STUDIED THROUGH-  
OUT THE WAR YEARS.

4. IN 1946 LEW RELIEVED THE MEDICAL OFFICER IN AMARAH, FINALLY  
RETURNING TO KUWAIT FOR GOOD IN 1949 WHEN HE BECAME CHIEF MEDICAL  
OFFICER FOR THE MISSION THERE. DOROTHY SERVED AS NURSING  
SUPERINTENDENT AND HOSPITAL ADMINISTRATOR. FROM THE TIME THE  
AMERICAN CONSULATE IN KUWAIT OPENED IN 1951, THE SCUDDERS DEVELOPED  
CLOSE FRIENDSHIPS WITH FOREIGN SERVICE PERSONNEL SERVING THERE,  
AS WELL AS HELPING TO MEET THEIR MEDICAL NEEDS IN EARLY YEARS.

5. WHEN THE DUTCH REFORM MISSION CLOSED THE AMERICAN HOSPITAL IN  
KUWAIT, THE SCUDDERS STAYED ON TO MANAGE THE LOCAL MILITARY  
HOSPITAL. THEY HAD PLANNED TO RETIRE THIS YEAR AND HAD SUBMITTED  
THEIR FORMAL RESIGNATION TO THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE ON EASTER  
SUNDAY. IN OFFERING HIS CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILY, ABDUL RAHMAN  
ATEEQI SAID: "THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS READ DR. SCUDDER'S LETTER  
OF RESIGNATION AND LAID IT ASIDE, BUT GOK DECIDED TO ACCEPT IT."

6. LEW SCUDDER WAS BURIED APRIL 5 IN THE CHRISTIAN CEMETERY  
AT SULIEBIKHAT, FOLLOWING FUNERAL SERVICES AT THE OLD MISSION  
CHURCH. HE IS SURVIVED, ALONG WITH HIS WIDOW BY HIS SON  
LEWIS, CURRENTLY PASTOR OF THE NATIONAL EVANGELICAL CHURCH  
IN KUWAIT, AND TED, WHO IS EMPLOYED BY ARAMCO IN SAUDI ARABIA;  
AND BY HIS DAUGHTER MARILYN, AN OPHTHALMOLOGIST IN MOSHE, TANZANIA,  
AND PAM, AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHER IN ILLINOIS.

7. FRIENDS OF THE SCUDDER FAMILY MAY WISH TO EXPRESS THEIR  
SYMPATHY BY CONTRIBUTING TO THE LEWIS SCUDDER MEMORIAL FUND  
OF THE NATIONAL EVANGELICAL CHURCH IN KUWAIT.  
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